AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Film Federation of India boycotted the 28th International Film Festival of India held this January in Thiruvananthapuram;

(b) the reasons for boycott by the FFI; and

(c) what steps were taken by Government to ensure that IFFI did not lose its purpose and lustre?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) The Film Federation of India did not officially participate in the festival due to lack of consensus over the choice of the chief guest for the inagural function.

(c) The festival, over the years, has been attracting outstanding films from all over the world and is now an important event on the international cultural calendar. It is the constant endeavour of the Government to enssure that the festival provides the best of world and Indian cinema to film-makers, technicians, artistes, critics, students of cinema and film lovers in the country.

Negative projection of Leaders of opposition by Chennai Doordarshan

3307. SHRI P. SOUNDARARAJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Chennai (Madras) Doordarshan has been indulging in negative projection of leaders of opposition parties in Tamil Nadu with malafide intention; and

(b) what action Government propose to take to ensure that the Doordarshan functions impartially?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) All Doordarshan Kendras, including the one at Chennai (Madras) are strictly following the Broadcast Code which, inter-alia, does not permit depiction in a bad light or negative projection of any public figure, much less leaders of recognised political parties, whether in government or in opposition.

(b) Does not arise.

Serious discontentment among T.V. News-Correspondent

3308. DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the serious discontentment amongst the T.V. News Correspondents, Assistant News Correspondent for want of lack of working facilities and promotional avenues which has forced several officers to leave the organisation; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government have received any communication from Members of Parliament in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) A few representations have been received mainly for providing promotional avenues to TV News Correspondents etc.

(c) It has been agreed, in principle, to create posts of TV Special news Correspondents in the higher grade to provide promotional avenues to TV News Correspondents.

Standard education programme to be Televised in each School/College.

3309. SHRI R. MARGABANDU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state whether Standard Education Programme on various subject can be compiled and televised in each High School/Higher Secondary School and in